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The Cleveland Museum of Art Announced the 24th Gala Music Series

"The area's most impressive chamber music series...a kind of smorgasbord of events ranging from ancient music to the most recent scores." –Chamber Music America

CLEVELAND (July 25, 2003) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) announces the of its highly acclaimed Gala Music Series with a ten performance series from September 2003 to May 2004. The ten concert series will be held in the museum's Gartner Auditorium on Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. with the final performance by the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra on Sunday, May 9, at 2:30 p.m. For more information about the Gala events call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.clevelandart.org/musicalarts.

Highlights of the season include debut performances by the Canadian mezzo Susan Platts, violinist Elizabeth Walfisch, cellist Jaap ter Linden, the exciting Sō Percussion Quartet, the Brentano Quartet and the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra considered by many to be "the greatest chamber orchestra the world has known." Returning by popular demand are the Vermeer Quartet, cellist Alisa Weilerstein, violinist Andrew Manze, and pianist Ruth Laredo. Pre concert lectures by noted scholars take place in the recital hall one hour before each concert.

Subscription packages can be purchased through the CMA ticket center or by calling 1-888-CMA-0033. Subscribers save up to 42 percent off the full ticket price and receive advanced information about upcoming concerts and email updates.

The 2003-04 season lineup includes:

Wednesday, September 24, 7:30 p.m.

Alisa Weilerstein, cello with Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, piano

Raised in Cleveland, Alisa has grown to become one of the most vibrant cellists performing today. Currently studying at Juilliard and Columbia University, in her spare time she travels the world performing in the most prestigious concert halls and festivals.

Works by Kodály, Joseph Hallman, J. S. Bach, Janáček, and Prokofiev

Wednesday, October 8, 7:30 p.m.

Andrew Manze, baroque violin

He has been referred to as "a violinist with extraordinary flair and improvisatory freedom, the Grapelli of the baroque, by *BBC Music Magazine* and "the first modern superstar of the baroque violin. . . dazzlingly inventive. . . [Manze] has introduced an element of vitality and even danger to Baroque performance," from the *San Francisco Examiner*. He returns for a rousing solo performance.

Works by Telemann, J. S. Bach, and Tartini ("*Devil's Trill*" sonata)

Wednesday, October 22, 7:30 p.m.

The Sō Percussion Quartet

This innovative quartet has quickly gained a reputation for captivating audiences with exciting performances of new and classic percussion music. Appearing as part of the museum's Aki Festival of New Music, Sō has recently been featured at the Bang on a Can Marathon, the BAM Next Wave Festival, and Columbia's Miller Theater.

David Lang (*The So-Called Laws of Nature*), John Cage (*Third Construction*), and other works

Wednesday, November 5, 7:30 p.m.

The Brentano String Quartet

Named after Antonie Brentano, Beethoven's mysterious "Immortal Beloved," the BSQ is known for its technical brilliance and stylistic elegance. Winners of the first Cleveland Quartet Award, and the 1995 Naumburg Chamber Music Award, they also won the Royal Philharmonic Society Music Award for their debut at Wigmore Hall in 1997. They became the first quartet in residence at Princeton University in 1999.

Haydn, *Quartet in B-minor, Op. 33, No. 1*

Berg, *Lyric Suite*

Schubert, *Quartet in D minor "Death and the Maiden"*

Wednesday, February 11, 7:30 p.m.

The Vermeer String Quartet

The Beethoven String Quartets

With performances in practically every major city in North America, Europe, and Australia, the Vermeer has achieved international stature as one of the world's finest ensembles. Formed in 1969 at Marlboro, the quartet has since performed at most of the prestigious festivals from Tanglewood to the Casals Festival.

The Vermeer continues its fourth installment of Beethoven String Quartets: *Quartet in F minor, Op. 95, Quartet in B-flat Major, Op. 18, No. 6, and Quartet in A minor, Op. 132.*

Wednesday, February 25, 7:30 p.m.

The Czech Nonet

Celebrating their 80th Anniversary, the nine-member ensemble is one of the oldest chamber ensembles touring today. Unique not only for its long and successful history, but also for its original instrumentation, the ensemble was formed in 1924 at the Prague Conservatory and inspired by the *Nonet* of Ludwig Spohr. The Czech Nonet provides an inexhaustible supply of colorful combinations with the dramatic sonority of a chamber orchestra yet with the intimacy of a string quartet.

Ward, *Raleigh Divertimento*

Dvořák, *Serenade in D minor, Op. 44*

Spohr, *Grand Nonet*

Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.

Three by Three

Elizabeth Wallfisch, violin,

Jaap ter Linden, cello,

David Breitman, fortepiano

Three like-minded and passionate musicians from England, The Netherlands, and the US—each a star in the early music world—breath new life into programs that explore the birth of the piano trio genre in Vienna. Works by Schubert, Haydn, and Beethoven.

Wednesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.

Ruth Laredo, piano

Hailed as “America’s First Lady of the Piano” (*New York Daily News*), Ms. Laredo has a distinguished worldwide reputation as a leading soloist and recording artist. In her long awaited return to the CMA, she offers a virtuosic program.

R. Schumann, four pieces from the *Phantasiestücke*, Op. 12

Beethoven, Sonata No. 23 “Appassionata”

Scriabin, *Poème* Op. 32, No. 1

Rachmaninoff, select *Préludes*

Ravel, *La Valse*

Wednesday, April 21, 7:30 p.m.

Susan Platts, mezzo-soprano with Dennis Helmrich, piano

This stunning young Canadian mezzo is renowned for the intense personal involvement, assured musicality, and remarkable range of color she brings to a seamlessly beautiful voice. She has appeared with many of the world’s great orchestras and in leading opera houses.

Works by Mahler, Brahms, Berlioz, and others.

Sunday, May 9, 2:30 p.m.

The Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Zhang Qiang, pipa

Critically acclaimed as one of the world’s foremost performing ensembles, Orpheus combines a symphonic range of repertoire with the intimacy of a chamber ensemble. Known for its eloquent and exuberant performances as well as the discipline, precision, and quality of its interpretations, Orpheus does it all—rehearses, performs, and records—without a conductor.

Based at Carnegie Hall, Orpheus was founded in 1972 by a group of musicians who aspired to perform orchestral repertoire as chamber music. Their approach has garnered them a Grammy and innumerable accolades for their recordings on Deutsche Grammophon.

Respighi, *Ancient Airs and Dances*, Set No. 1

Tan Dun, *Concerto for String Orchestra and Pipa*

Ravel, *Pavane pour une infante defunte*

Bartók, *Divertimento for Strings*

For more information about The Cleveland Museum of Art and its events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

The Cleveland Museum of Art receives operating support from the Ohio Arts Council and promotional support from WCLV 104.9 FM.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America’s leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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